

SPOKE

Conestoga College, Kitchener

JANUARY 4, 1999

What's Inside



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Do you stick to your New Year's resolutions?

Lineups expected for OSAP receivers

By Brent Clouthier

As students begin receiving the second instalment of their Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) loans this week, Carol Walsh of Conestoga College's financial-aid department has a few words of advice.

"Be ready for lineups. Especially the first day."

Walsh also suggested that if students want to avoid the lineups, they should arrive early. "Or, if you can wait and don't need your money straightaway, by Wednesday the lineups should have died down."

"We'll be issuing the loans in the Guild Room of the registrar's office between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. the first week of January," Walsh continued. "After that, we'll be back to our regular hours of 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., every afternoon."

To be eligible to pick up loan documents, returning students need to present their student card, their social-insurance card or a government document that shows their SIN.

"No exceptions," Walsh said. "That's a ministry requirement and not our rule. We're accountable. We have to follow the policies and procedures."

New students will also need to present their registration form.

Walsh explained the amount of second-semester tuition owing will be written on the loan document and the bank will forward the amount to the college.

"Sometimes the bank makes mistakes," she warned. "For example, you're picking up a loan for \$3,000 and you owe \$900 for second-semester tuition; if \$3,000 goes into your account, it means the bank messed up and didn't send your tuition. The bottom line is that you still owe it, it's your responsibility. Don't put your head in the sand and say, 'It's mine, no one said anything.'"

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Survey Says . . .

Gerry Cleaves, centre, Doon Student Association vice-president of student affairs, hosts the Family Feud. Four teams participated in the Christmas game last month.

(Photo by Melanie Spencer)

Journalism switching to three-year program

By Dee Bettencourt

Starting September 1999, the current five-semester journalism-print program at Conestoga College will become three years in length and will be renamed journalism-print and journalism-broadcast.

Journalism-print co-ordinator Sharon Dietz confirmed on Dec. 14 that instead of intakes three times a year and compressing the course by not offering summers off, the program will accept journalism students only in September and they will have summers off.

"The Ministry of Education and Training has just completed a review of journalism programs in the province and it has decided that three-year journalism programs must be print and journalism-broadcast programs. We are only print, so we were given the option to become a three-year journalism-print and journalism-broadcast program or become a two-year journalism-print program," said Dietz.

The college has chosen the three-year option and will incorporate journalism-broadcast into its print curriculum.

"We'll have a January 1999 intake, but there will be no May 1999 intake into the compressed or accelerated programs as they

are now."

Students who are currently enrolled will finish their program on the compressed-program design and not be affected by these changes at all, said Dietz. "It's going to take a little over a year to grandfather the compressed program out."



Sharon Dietz

(Photo by Dee Bettencourt)

Dietz said journalism currently offers an introduction to journalism-broadcast, which starts for the first time this January, but to meet ministry learning outcomes for a three-year print and journalism-broadcast program, Conestoga will offer additional journalism-broadcast courses in September.

The university-stream journalism students, or the accelerated program of three semesters, may

also experience some changes, said Dietz.

"There will be a stronger journalism-broadcast component to it, as well, to meet ministry guidelines. We are looking at making it a post-diploma program, which would place it into our post-diploma program calendar which is what degree students look at. That would allow us to advertise it separately — a lot of people don't know that program exists. It would increase recruitment."

There will be benefits and drawbacks with respect to the new six-semester program's design, said journalism's co-ordinator.

"The major benefit for the college will be that it (the compressed program) will operate like every other program around here. Journalism has always been an anomaly because it runs all year round. It changes from semester to semester and nobody knows what semester they're taking — few understand the program's design," she said. "It's very demanding to operate a program without (summer) shutdown time to make upgrades and repairs to facilities. Now we'll operate in tandem with other programs and facilitate better operation of the program."

See Journalism . . . Page 8

Warm weather hurting grass, trees

By Rob Himburg

When you tell most people that the first 11 months of this year have been warmer than the norm, most would tell you to enjoy it. Little do they know the weather has been playing havoc with conditions around the campus.

It's evident by the grass on the soccer and baseball fields that the decrease, and therefore, lack of rain has left playing conditions poor and the field itself very unmanageable.

Normally, the grass could handle the wear and tear of a sports team, but, as statistics from Environment Canada show, there has been an increase in normal temperatures for each month in 1998.

Coupled with this temperature increase is a decrease in the amount of precipitation, leaving the fields and other areas on the campus in shambles.

"The fields, sports fields in particular, have been affected the most," said head of physical resources Barry Milner. "We're looking at doing some restoration work in the spring such as top dressing, aerating and over-seeding to try and replenish these areas."

He admits the college, which plants numerous trees every year, has also had some other adverse effects brought to notice by the weather.

"Of the couple hundred trees we planted," Milner continued, "we have had to nurture a lot of them by watering them, which we would not normally do."

Not only does this cost the college extra money through

Polar Plunge could be cancelled

By Melanie Spencer

If the water level in the pond outside of the cafeteria keeps decreasing, Conestoga College's Polar Bear Plunge may not take place this year.

"I watched the pond get lower and lower (during the summer)," said Gerry Cleaves, vice-president of student affairs for the Doon Student Association. "As soon as you start seeing the drain pipes, where water is supposed to be coming out, it's a bad sign."

The student association has always relied on the pond for its annual Polar Bear Plunge, which is a fund-raiser for the Heart and Stroke Foundation, he said. "If we don't have a pond, we don't have a plunge. It's that simple."

Cleaves said if there is a cold winter and only a couple of feet of water in the pond, people will be jumping in mud.

"Then, instead of the Polar Bear Plunge, it's a pig contest."

Cleaves said in order for a safe plunge, the water level must be at least waist-high.

The pond is also a concern for Cleaves because it is an eyesore.

"The pond is dying. The pond is thirsty. It needs water."



Gerry Cleaves, DSA vice-president of student affairs, pours water into the pond in an attempt to raise the water level.

(Photo by Melanie Spencer)

water expenses, but it costs them staff hours through an increased workload.

It has also brought up concern

regarding the annual Polar Bear Plunge held by the Doon Student Association, as the level of water in the pond has receded.

"The pond is not a spring-fed one," said Milner. "It's all runoff water that fills it and because of the lack of rain,

the water level is way down."

The weather has, however, had some benefit to the college as well. A farmer, whose field was not producing enough hay, used the field across Conestoga College Boulevard from parking lot 10.

This allowed the college to save time through not having to maintain the land and it also saved them the wear and tear on the machinery used to perform this maintenance.

A final effect the extra heat brought on by Mother Nature is having is that there has yet to be a snowfall. The key word, according to Milner is "yet."

"Even though we haven't had to spend money on snow removal yet this year," he said. "There is always the opportunity that we could get a blast of snow right before Christmas like a couple of years ago."

He said that in reference to the winter of 1995 when two days before Christmas, the snow blew in and record low temperatures were recorded.

He said the average cost of maintaining a parking space in the winter was \$13.14 last year. The previous year it cost \$20.43 for the same number, 3,489 spaces. That means the college saved a total of \$18,945.27.

According to Environment Canada, this winter, whenever it hits, is supposed to unleash one of the largest and heaviest snowfalls in a while, but so far none of it has fallen.

"I would love to see the same type of savings this winter," said Milner. "We'll just have to wait and see what Mother Nature brings."

... continued from Page 1

OSAP pick-up usually smooth

Walsh says the process of loan pick-ups is generally very smooth. "We get a lot of good feedback, actually, especially from students who have been to other institutions. We only get the odd student who thinks this is McDonald's."

She recalled a time when things were anything but smooth.

"About five years ago, before they built this building," she said, "we used to have an office in the employee-services building. Students used to line up outside; they would get soaked if the weather was bad, somebody would faint in the heat. Sometimes, they would line up for three hours and then we would have to say, 'Sorry, we can't take any more; we're done.' In those days, it was pretty tough."

Currently, Walsh foresees only one problem: students who encounter a nasty surprise when they receive their loan entitlement.

"They could have been reassessed and getting less than they expected," she said. "That's due to one of two things: First, they may have earned more money in the summer than they thought they were going to earn, and they're asked to declare that when they pick up the first portion of their loan. That could have reduced their second entitlement."

"Secondly, the ministry did an income-verification run with Revenue Canada in November and they checked all parent and student incomes. If anyone earned more than they declared, that money will be deducted from the loan amount."

Blue Mountain Ski Trip



Friday, January 29



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Woodworking conference creates industry contacts

By Jacqueline Smith

At the second annual wood processing conference held on Dec. 3 and 4, students and faculty members along with the dean of trade and technology, had the opportunity to show the wood-working industry what the college has been doing in the field.

The International Value-Added Wood Processing (IVAWP) conference, held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, had 100 participants from Quebec, British Columbia, and France, all of whom are currently producers or distributors of secondary wood products, building products that use wood.

Also at the conference were trade association and government personnel involved in policy development of increased production of value-added wood products.

Investors and financial institutions involved in funding producers of secondary wood products were also present.

Mark Bramer, one of the Conestoga faculty members who attended, said it was a broad conference in that everyone attended for their own area of interest and the outcome was positive.

"We had the opportunity to share with the industry what Conestoga College's role is in the wood industry," he said.



First-year woodworking student Tim Scholman attended a conference in Toronto and helped set up booths for the college.

(Photo by Jacqueline Smith)

Bramer, who is also on the planning committee for the program, said the real focus of the conference was networking.

"I always find that the networking of the people there is very good. You get to meet others who are doing what you are

doing, and the contacts continue after the conference," said Bramer.

"I thought that was really good, seeing all the industry people at work," said Tim Scholman, a first-year woodworking student who also attended.

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New ISO logo to be displayed at meeting

By Rob Himburg

Mark Jan. 28 on your calendar students. That is when International Organization for Standardization (ISO 9000) will be holding seminars at the three main campuses of Conestoga College.

Doon, Guelph and Waterloo will play host to the hour-long presentation of the new ISO logo and slogan, which was designed by graphic design student Wade Convey.

The presentation will also be a chance for the public to ask questions of the ISO steering committee in relation to their purpose and where they are

going with ISO 9000.

Joyce Irving, one of the heads of the ISO Watch group said there are going to be a lot of important people attending the unveiling.

"President Tibbits will be there to speak, the board of governors and a number of staff and students," said Irving. "There will also be members of the ISO steering committee at all of the campuses. They will answer any questions about the ISO and what it is and its objectives."

The times of the presentations are 11:15 a.m. at Doon, 12:15 p.m. at Guelph and 1:15 p.m. at Waterloo.



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Nominations open on January 4, 1999
 Nominations close on March 12, 1999

Letters

‘Groping’
for proper
grammar

In response to Andrew Jankowski, the old saying I was “groping for” is exactly the one I used in my letter of Nov. 30.

Please do not presume to put words in my mouth, as I consider this practice to be as abhorrent as vague phraseology, grammatical or ungrammatical.

My point is that with the proliferation of the word “like” in the vulgar tongue, as in: “So I’m like reading Andrew’s letter,” it seems to me the simple use of quotes would serve to disambiguate Jankowski’s argument.

On a personal note I might add that it is still a good deal of fun to yank on Andrew’s chain occasionally, and I truly miss the opportunity of doing so on a daily basis.

Mel Taylor

Cartoons
bringing
down
paper

Get rid of those cheese stupid cartoons. My little sister could draw better. And I do know what I am talking about cause I have a copyright on a cartoon so it’s not like they are hard to draw. They really bring down the paper.

Shawn Smith

Unresolved
resolutions

So, what are your New Year’s resolutions for 1999?

It’s that time of year again when people take a pen and paper and write down all their nasty habits they want to correct in the next year.

Each year, people from around the world make this list of promises, which are often ones they intend to keep. But how often do these resolutions get kept? Or if they are, how long do they last? Probably only a couple of weeks.

Resolutions that are made by people usually include items that will make them look better or be a better person.

They are often made to make the year ahead better than the one that the resolution maker just finished.

Some of the most common: this year I will lose 20 pounds, this



Melissa
Dietrich

year I will start going to a gym, this year I will start eating healthier food, this year I will quit smoking, this year I will be more pleasant with people, and the list goes on.

But, how many of these promises actually get fulfilled?

It is rather silly of the human population to go through the stress of not being able to even keep a promise made to themselves.

What is the real purpose of a New Year’s resolution anyway? Who could have invented such a mean tradition?

Although it may be fun to check off the ones that people do accomplish, it can also be a big letdown when they look back a year later and sees the ones they didn’t fulfill.

So when you make your list for 1999 and then look back at the end of the year to find only a few accomplished, don’t get too upset. Just add them on to the list for next year or just don’t put yourself through the stress again.

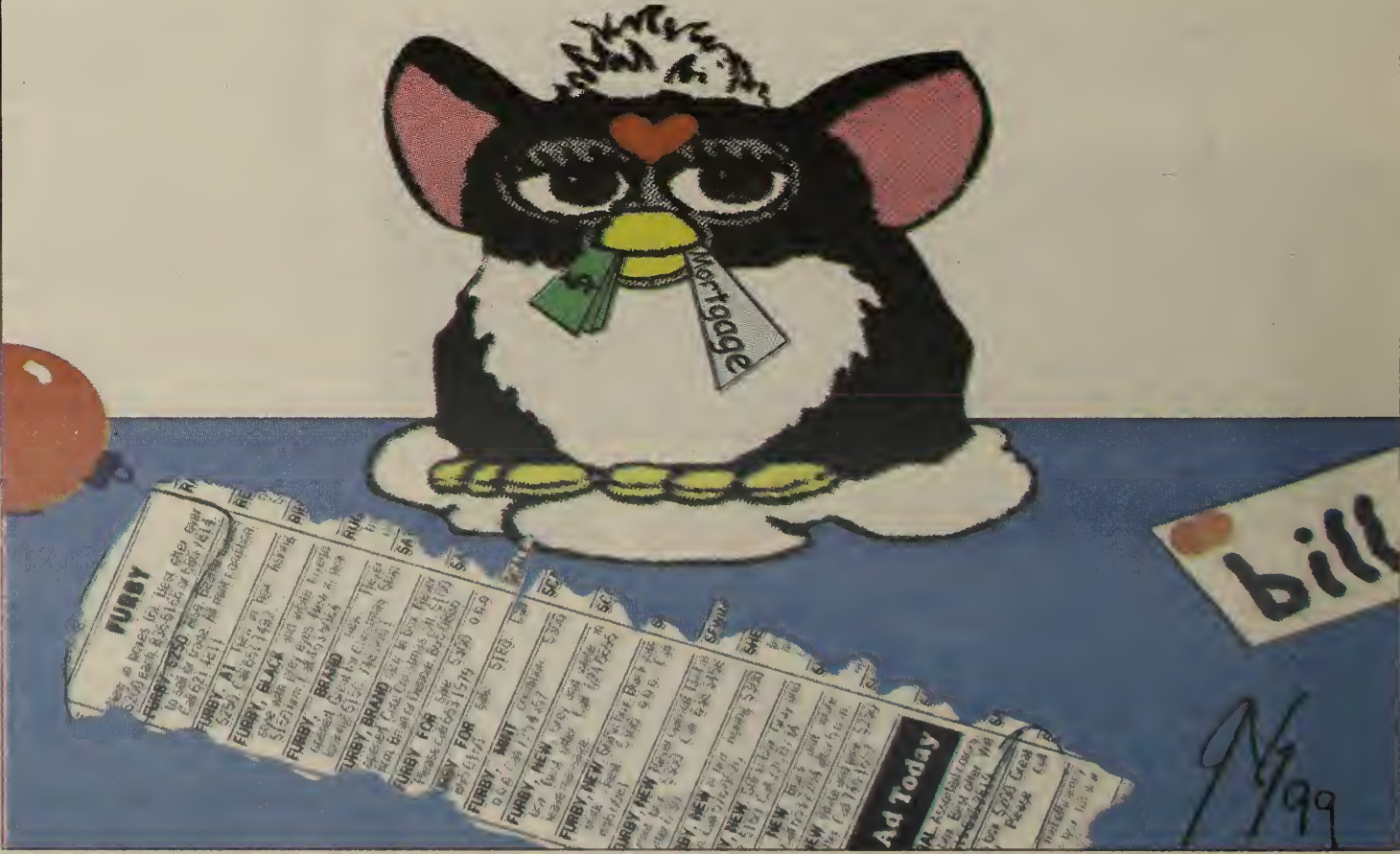
CARTING ALONG THE GOODS



Becky Boertien, Doon Student Association’s director of student life, loads a box of donations for the student food bank onto a dolly last month.

Photo by Melanie Spencer

Beware the ghost of Christmas past



SPOKE

Keeping Conestoga College connected

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Reporter still feels like a rookie

Journalism graduate went on record

By Jacqueline Smith

"It took me a while before I realized that I should focus on what my strengths are, instead of trying to fix my weaknesses," says Kitchener-Waterloo Record reporter, Tony Reinhart.

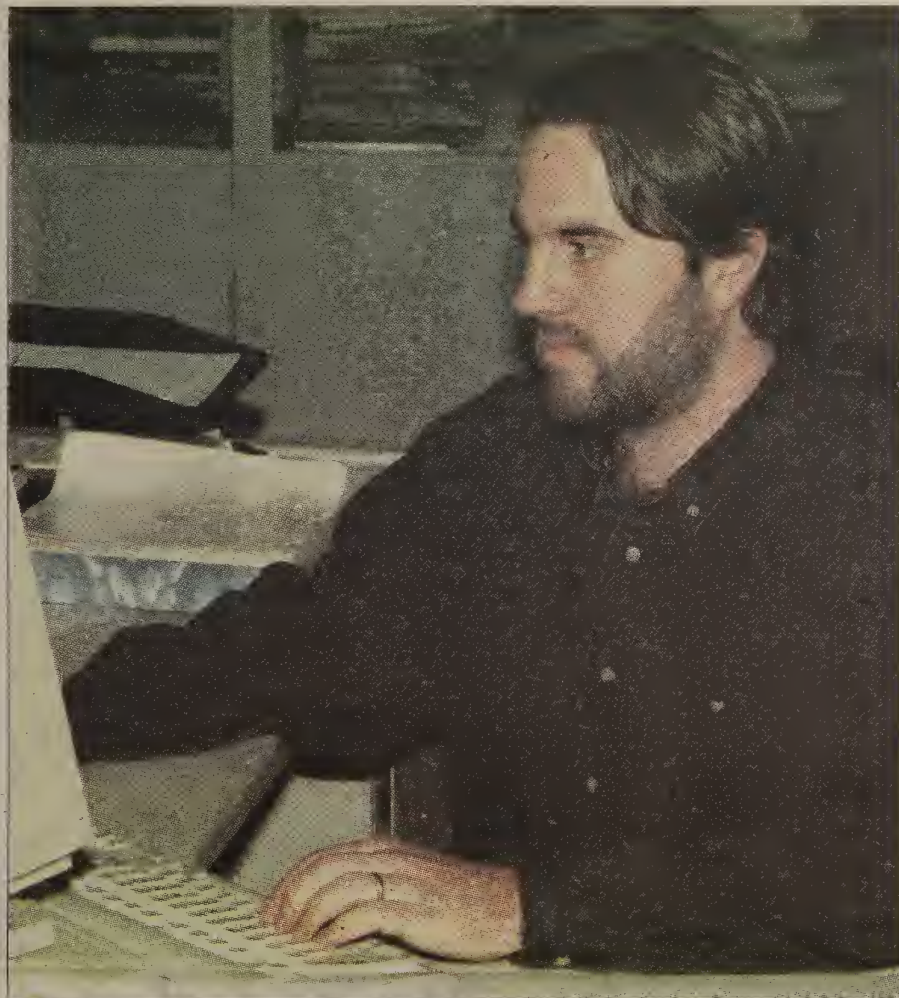
Reinhart, who graduated from Conestoga College with a journalism diploma, said in an interview he liked the program, but was a little frustrated with some of his classmates. "I thought everybody was going to be as into it as I was, but only a handful were really serious about working in journalism when they finished."

During his time in the program, he was the editor of Spoke. "The first day I was supposed to start, I remember I came down with mononucleosis. But I only missed the first day." Two months before he finished the course, Reinhart said he was offered a job with the Guelph Tribune. "It was actually an offer for a co-op term, but they wanted me to start right away, so I had to get permission to get out early."

His workterm at the Tribune turned into a full-time job by the end of the summer of 1988. Because the Tribune was small, he had the opportunity to get a lot of things in the paper. "I took photos, developed, made prints, wrote stories, editorials and all that stuff," the reporter said, adding that he had to write about 10 stories for each edition of the paper and many briefs.

He began trying to get into the Record less than a year after he started in Guelph. "This was where I wanted to work, but they weren't interested in Conestoga graduates right out of school."

Because the Record and the Tribune were owned by the same group, he had access to the Record's job postings. Each time a job was posted, he applied for it, and each week



Tony Reinhart, a Kitchener-Waterloo Record reporter, and a graduate of Conestoga's journalism program, pauses for the camera minutes before his 7 p.m. workshift on Dec. 14.

(Photo by Jacqueline Smith)

he sent clippings from the paper in Guelph to Frank Etherington, who was doing the hiring then. He would also drop in unannounced and tell Etherington how

much he wanted to work with the Record. "I think I did that for about a year. Finally, he offered me one of six summer internships."

He quit his full-time job in Guelph to take the four-month job at the Record. He thought he had done pretty well that summer, and then a contract position came up to cover Guelph. "I thought I would be a natural for the job because I had just worked in there for two years, so I applied. They gave it to one of the students that I was competing against," Reinhart said, adding that not getting the job was a bit of letdown. However, a couple weeks later a part-time employee quit and he was offered her job.

With 11 years' experience, the 31-year-old said he still feels like a rookie. "There is always a new way to write a story; there are always new things to try," he said.

If he were to give advice to a student, Reinhart said he would encourage him or her not to be swayed by what an editor thinks the story is before he or she goes out to do it. "You might get sent out to an assignment and before you even go out to cover it an editor might have an idea in his/her head what the end product is going to be." The reporter said he would resist this and go about writing the story based on the closest thing to the truth, rather than how an editor would want it written.

The father of two said it is good for reporters to break out of writing straight leads and try new ways to write a story. At the same time, they must accept that a copy editor may change it back to traditional news style. "But you have to accept also that writing is a subjective thing and other people may not accept your genius thinking as much as you do."

The reporter said students who are fresh out of college should be willing to start below where they want to end up. "You have to pay your dues at smaller papers, unless you are lucky."

Schoenberg's rock-solid performance



Jessica Schoenberg, a Toronto musician, entertains students in the Sanctuary last month.

(Photo by Sarah Thomson)

By Sarah Thomson

For those who were listening, Jessica Schoenberg, with her acoustic guitar, played a talented and interactive performance that showed her stage presence, during a set which included original material and a cover piece by Teri Amos and Cole Porter.

The show in the Sanctuary Dec. 10, featured contests and giveaways for T-shirts, and Jessica Schoenberg Band CDs.

To win a CD, students had to write down the 12 days of Christmas. One person braved the stage to sing Happy Birthday with Schoenberg to a fellow student. Schoenberg also read the crowd a Christmas story.

The musician, who has been singing and playing guitar for 15 years, described the lunch-hour crowd as noisy. "It's hard. The lights are up, it's Christmas and I'm sure you've got exams," said Schoenberg.

She describes herself as being "really comfortable solo," but the setting offered a challenge. She said it is a learning experience to maintain your focus while only a

handful of people are listening.

Raised in an artistic family that includes a brother who plays professional guitar, a mother who is an actress and a father who is a drama professor, it is no wonder that Schoenberg picked up on music and performing live.

She describes herself as being "really comfortable solo," but the setting offered a challenge. She said it is a learning experience to maintain your focus while only a handful of people are listening.

She started out in Edmonton and was known as the acoustic-guitar-toting folkie who played a showcase at the 1994 Edmonton Folk Festival.

After the festival, she ended up

having a jam session with Blue Rodeo and decided to go rock, forming the Jessica Schoenberg Band in April 1995. Its album, *Tiniest of Bones* was produced independently by Dale Penner, who has worked on Holly McNarland's *Stuff*.

The Jessica Schoenberg Band went on to win the Demo Derby in August 1997. They beat out three groups from the American East Coast in the finals and 500 other groups that didn't make the cut.

Now Schoenberg has gone full circle. She has been solo since March. She hasn't turned back to her folk roots, but has combined the acoustic guitar with a harder sound, and lyrics and vocals that sound like a cross between Alanis Morissette and Melissa Etheridge.

The 29-year-old musician is in the process of recording her solo CD. She is currently in negotiations with a small record company in New York, and if all goes well, the CD will be out in the summer. If it is released independently it will be in stores in February.

Upcoming Intramural Games

Ice Hockey

Tuesday January 5
4:30 pm Individuals vs. Misfits

Wednesday January 6

4:30 pm Chiefs vs. Space Cowboys
5:30 pm Misfits vs. Galley's Triumph

Ball Hockey

Tuesday January 12

4:00 pm Bearded Clams vs. Wolves
4:50 pm S.O.B.'s vs. Blades
5:30 pm Dinamo vs. Bearded Clams

Thursday January 14

4:00 pm S.O.B.'s vs. Galt Hornets
4:50 Enforcers vs. Wolves
5:30 pm Dinamo vs. Bearded Clams



Healthwise

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Scenario: The Party

You are at a party with a friend. The majority of people are smoking. Your friend tells you that she is having problems breathing and you help her with her inhaler. You notice that she takes her inhaler again, five minutes later. When you return to your friend you notice that she is gasping for air, coughing and hear wheezing. You come to the realization that your friend is in respiratory distress. It is time to get your friend some emergency attention right now, pronto!

Despite the new advance in technology and research done about asthma, the number of incidents and mortality rate has increased over the past twenty years.

What is Asthma? Asthma is an inflammatory disease.

How does Asthma effect our bodies? Asthma begins by a stimulus (e.g. Smoke) that triggers our inflammatory response. This caused difficult and painful breathing, a cough and wheezing. This is all due to the bronchial tubes that are found in your lungs start to narrow and fill up with mucus. This makes breathing a challenge.

What is the treatment for Asthma? The best treatment for asthma is to remove the source that causes the attack (pets, smoke, dust...). When removing the causative agent doesn't work, the doctor may prescribe inhalers. Ventolin, Atrovent, and Beclovent are the most common inhalers. Ventolin and Atrovent open up the airways, making breathing much easier. Beclovent decreases swelling in your lungs. Being in the hospital and observing patients' take their medications, it is often noted that the majority of people who own an inhaler use their inhaler improperly. When an inhaler is used wrong, that means that the medication is not getting where it is suppose to go to be therapeutic and to stop the inflammation process.

How to use an inhaler properly:

1. Remove the cap from the mouthpiece, and shake
 2. Breathe out slowly, try to get all of the air out of the lungs.
 3. Place the inhaler directly in front of the mouth. Approximately 2 finger width in front of the lips. Begin to breathe in slowly with your mouth wide open. At the same time press the canister down.
 4. Continue to keep inhaling. This brings the spray deep into your lungs. Try to hold your breath for as long as you can.
 5. Remove the inhaler away from your mouth and breathe out gently.
 6. Wait 30 seconds between each inhalation.
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Tasha De Jong
Semester 5 Nursing

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Good time singing the blues

Buddy Guy has his mojo workin'

By Jason Gennings

When Buddy Guy came to town, fans heard blues so good, you could smell it.

"If you don't like the blues, you're in the wrong place," said Guy during his Dec. 10 concert.

Guy rolled into Lulu's to perform some of the guitar work that has inspired Jimi Hendrix and Eric Clapton.

Local bluesman Mel Brown opened the show at 8:30 p.m. while there was still a line at the door. When he started with his first song, things were a little loose, but as the band warmed up the playing was tighter and more precise.

Brown enjoys the typical blues sound, moving from progression to progression all as an excuse to strut his skill. The band gave him a simple bass line just so he could

make it up with lead guitar.

Watching Brown perform, it's quickly apparent he enjoys what he does, and that has allowed him to become good at it.

When he finished his act the Lulu's crowd responded with applause and lined up to buy his latest CD.

Wes Cunningham filled the time between Mel Brown and the feature act.

He was sandwiched between two top guitar acts, and it is not an easy place to fill. This is a young, three-person band with some good harmony and good vocals, courtesy of Cunningham. Unfortunately, they were out of place in a blues review.

Sorry guys, but this was a crowd for blues, with 90 per cent over 35, and not here to listen to a band that thinks combining a wawa

pedal with cranked up speakers is similar to skilful playing. Some audience members stuffed napkins into their ears.

At about 11 p.m. Guy came on with his black Stratocaster, complete with white polka dots and jumped into the fast, precise playing he's known for.

He didn't ease the crowd into it either. By opening with Got My Mojo Working, he revved up the fans and didn't let them down until he left the stage.

Guy is a showman. He uses high-energy guitar work and onstage flair to hold the audience's attention. Guy interacted with the crowd during his first song, getting a room full of longtime fans shouting the lyrics to their favourites.

Guy paced the stage, working both sides of the room, keeping the energy level high. Throughout the concert, he explored the full range of the Stratocaster with whammy bar work and stage tricks: playing one-handed, drinking while he played, even using his teeth and his electric cord to work the strings.

He did teasers imitating legends of blues and rock, and after he fished the crowd in, he'd stop.

"I'm just showing you I can play it all," he said. "I'm just messin' with you."

There were some songs in tribute to the late Junior Wells, a longtime stage partner with Guy.

Near the end he was joined by Mel Brown, and like kids playing catch, they bounced the music back and forth. At the end, Brown held the crowd as Guy exited.

Guy rules Chicago blues like his mentor Muddy Waters did before him, and in modern blues, Guy is second only to B. B. King.

Liberated women may object to his lyrics, but music lovers of any genre can respect his skill.

"I came to Canada and you convinced me I probably could come here to play," said Guy.

When the blues came to town, Guy gave all his listeners their money's worth.



Movie
of the
Week

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12:30 pm
In The
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Notice to January Intake Students

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Finally challenged

Soccer women hold on for victory

By Neven Mujezinovic

The Condor women's indoor soccer team finally got some serious competition from their opposition in indoor-league soccer action on Dec. 8. The 2-1 victory was earned with an all-round team effort and some great goalkeeping by Stephanie Den Haan.

After two thrashings of obviously inferior teams in the last couple of games, the Condors ran across a tough nut to crack. The Nights team was orderly and physically well-prepared. They came ready to give the Condors a run for their money, and they did, keeping the game exciting until the final whistle.

The game started badly for the Condors. Karen Melanson scored an own goal, after she miskicked the ball.

Melanson, who usually plays forward, was playing on defence because Condors' coach Geoff Johnstone is using the community indoor-soccer league to experiment with

various formations before the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association tournaments kick off. Perhaps Melanson is so used to scoring that she just had to put one in the net, no matter whose net it was.

After that initial setback, the Condors dug in and turned the score around with Angela Papazotos and Beth Taylor both scoring fine goals.

The half ended with the Condors leading the Nights 2-1, and that is how it would stay for the rest of the game. This fact can largely be attributed to Den Haan's brilliant goalkeeping. She made save after save to keep the Condors in the match. The Condors were ineffective up front in the second half.

The strikers tried to do too much individually, which usually resulted in chances going to waste.

This victory keeps the Condors tied in first place with the Conestoga Alumni, whom they will play on Jan. 5 in a classic top-of-the-table clash.

Condors discover sense of unity

By Neven Mujezinovic

Maybe it's because the hockey season is in full swing, or maybe it's because the Condors felt like they should be on top of the table instead of Ridgeview Homes, but the game between these two teams on Dec. 10 produced higher levels of testosterone than the bull run in Pamplona.

In the end, the Condors lost the game 4-3, and had three players ejected. There was, however, some good that came out of it.

Condors' coach Geoff Johnstone said the team was so pumped after the game and proud of the way they played and stuck together. "They became more of a team. So even though it is bad to get your players ejected, more good came out of it."

The tension was obvious even before the game started. It wouldn't be a "friendly" game, even though teammate Paul Mouradian plays his indoor soccer for Ridgeview Homes. The

Condors were going to give it 110 per cent. They would challenge hard for every loose ball. Every challenge was tough, but ultimately, always fair.

Ridgeview took the lead 10 minutes into the first half and soon after that, sparks began to fly. Dan Krauter tussled for the ball with a Ridgeview player and got punched in the process. He retaliated, punching his opponent and then all hell broke loose. There was complete pandemonium for about 30 seconds in which Condor Dwayne Bell demonstrated to the world he is more than an excellent soccer player, by showing he could hold his own in wrestling and boxing as well.

When the spirits calmed down, the referee ejected Krauter and Bell, which, in all fairness, was the right decision, but failed to eject the Ridgeview player who threw the first punch, which did not go over well with Johnstone.

Ridgeview took advantage of their five-minute two-man

advantage and made the score 2-0. Derhan Sherifali pulled one back from the penalty spot and the first half ended with the Condors trailing 2-1.

In the second half, Condor Joe Shamon was red-carded for throwing the ball at the referee. Ridgeview scored two more goals, but then the Condors started playing with great determination and pulled to within one on goals by Paul McQuade and Shaun Samuels.

The Condors applied the pressure and it was only the bravado of the Ridgeview Homes keeper that kept them out.

When the ref blew the final whistle, the Condors felt disappointed for not at least equalizing, but could also feel proud of their all-round effort. Had there been no ejections, it might have been a different story. What is important now is that they learn their lesson at keeping their cool and draw on their rediscovered sense of team unity.

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Booming business

Sky's the limit for enterprising student

By Ned Bekavac

When we last checked in with Mike Brown, the sky appeared to be the limit.

Brown, a third-year business-marketing student at Conestoga College, was featured in the July 20 edition of Spoke as The Little Computer Shop (TLC), a store that Brown co-owns, was about to celebrate its first anniversary.

Now, as the shop, located at 380 King St. N., Waterloo, plans to relocate to a more spacious building, Brown has added another notch to his business belt.

Teamed with co-worker Payman Khanlari, the 25-year-old has become co-owner of Skybridge Telecom, a long-distance telephone service that has been flourishing since its September conception.

Skybridge Telecom operates in conjunction with Metronet Communications, a company specializing in long-distance telephone plans. "We (Brown and Khanlari) hire and train sales people to find businesses, such as hotels, that use long distance to get them to convert their lines to Metronet," he said.

Though they do most of their work out of TLC's Waterloo location, Skybridge also has a Toronto-based office.

It all started when two of his co-workers for the Little Computer Shop presented Brown with the idea.

"Two guys I know from Metronet came to me and said, 'You don't know what kind of



Mike Brown
(Photo by Ned Bekavac)

opportunities are out there."

Brown, who will graduate from Conestoga College in May 1999, said he spends about 15 hours per week on this side project.

In the meantime, the business-marketing program and the Little Computer Shop occupy much of his time, he said.

"Though we plan to stay here for Christmas, we're moving the store to a bigger location across the street in about a month and a half," he said. The new location is about twice the size of the current site.

"Business has been phenomenal," Brown said. "We are getting a lot of return customers."

TLC has upped its payroll by one person since August, and is taking on a co-op student from St. David's high school.

Brown said he expects to be with both companies five years down the road. "I've paid my dues in selling though," Brown said. "I'd like to get into financial planning and development."

Broadcasting student heading for Hollywood

By Lisa Wilhelm

When going on a co-op term for any program at Conestoga College, most students can be expected to stay close to Kitchener-Waterloo and the surrounding area. But there are some students who take the initiative to go the extra mile, leaving their friends and family behind.

Third-year television-broadcasting student Paul Van Beek is not only going the extra mile, but an extra few thousand miles. On Jan. 2, he was to move to California, only blocks away from Sunset Boulevard, to start his co-op placement at Fox Sports West.

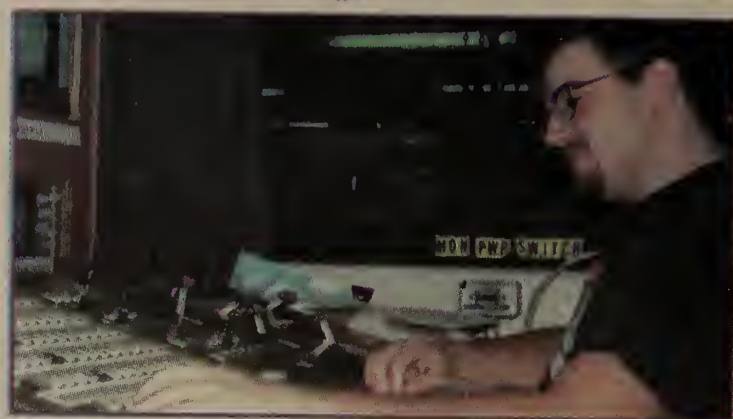
Van Beek, who has already worked on the Gemini Awards with CBC, New Year's Eve at Niagara Falls with BBS, Molson Leaf Hockey with Global and the annual Mother's Day TV telethon, said he's very anxious to go.

"I've known I wanted to be in broadcasting since I was five," Van Beek said. "I'm a big sports fan. When we were little, we would play hockey on a tennis court, but I would always do the play-by-play instead."

His job at Fox Sports, which lasts four months, will entail a little bit of everything. He said he'll be working in the newsroom and on mobiles, which involves going out into the field and covering various events. Van Beek said Fox covers the Los Angeles Kings, Lakers and Dodgers, the Anaheim Angels and Mighty Ducks and NCAA basketball games, and that one of his jobs will include covering these well-known teams.

So far, Van Beek is going the farthest of all his classmates, and although he's very excited, he's also nervous.

"I suppose there's a level of nervousness with any big move, but it's going to be cool to be so far away. It'll definitely be a life



Paul Van Beek, a third-year broadcasting student, was to leave for California on Jan. 2 for his co-op placement at Fox Sports West.
(Photo by Lisa Wilhelm)

experience."

His family is very excited about his decision. Van Beek said his mother has asked him only once why he couldn't have done something closer to home.

"My parents have been very supportive. They have been very helpful and patient and like any other parent, they just want the best for me."

Mike Thurnell, co-ordinator of the broadcasting program and one of Van Beek's teachers for the past three years, said he is a great student.

"We screen all the applicants and I was one of the people who screened him," said Thurnell. "I

... continued from Page 1

Journalism program changing to include broadcasting courses

Dietz said it will benefit students to have summers off, since they will be able to earn money for school, yet also return to college with students from their previous semester. In the current set-up, courses are not always available for each semester, but she said that problem will be eliminated in the new program's design.

"In the compressed program,

knew from day one that he had the right stuff."

Thurnell said that he was not at all surprised when he found out that Van Beek had taken the initiative to co-op in California.

"Last year, he did work with CBC, and it was a logical progression that he would go somewhere interesting."

Thurnell said he doesn't know if Van Beek is going to get a job out of this placement, but the experience he'll get is going to add to an already good resume.

Van Beek definitely hopes he'll get a job out of this. But, he said even if he doesn't, "Fox won't look so bad on a resume."

students are taking 30 hours per week and that's a demanding workload. The new workload will be 20 hours per week," said Dietz. "We are looking at more hours devoted to writing in courses that already exist, and hopefully more writing practice."

As for drawbacks, Dietz said with only one intake, all students will graduate in June. "They will have to look for jobs at the same time as everyone else in journalism across the province is looking for jobs."

Semester-five, compressed-program journalism students Lisa Wilhelm and Jaime Clark also feel there will be positive and negative aspects to the upcoming changes.

Although Wilhelm said six semesters should give students more time to learn and earn money for tuition, she added: "I would have liked to have had a summer job, but I'm glad I got it over and done with, too."

Clark expressed a similar opinion. "I think it's good it will be spread out over three years as it gives more time to learn. It's jammed right now and then we're pushed out the door. But I am glad to get over and done with, too."

"However, I would have been deterred if it was a three-year course, because I expect a college program to be shorter. If I wanted to spend three years (in school), I would have chosen university."

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER: The Value of Learning

Thanks, Dad. That extra box you slipped in when I packed up the Christmas gifts was the best gift.

My father was cleaning out the basement and probably realized I'd never volunteer to take my old school books. When I opened that surprise box I found my life's beginnings: all the special books that had inspired me throughout high school, college and university.

The Ministry of Education has explored the need for a more general education. "Do we really need a plumber who has read *Hamlet*?" skeptics ask. Retrieving my copy of *Hamlet* plus books such as *Le Petit Prince* and *Roman Mythology*, I was struck by how much these pages have influenced my life. To be or not to be? To read or not to read? I chose to read and today cherish what I learned.

When students complain about having to read beyond their immediate discipline, I wonder if they are missing out. Jobs, money and a diploma/certificate alone do not a person make. In answer to the question about the well read plumber, I say "yes". While talking with my plumber recently about theories of learning, I asked where he had obtained his certificate. I was glad he answered "Conestoga".

Read broadly and if it touches you, hold on to that book. Years from now, you may find memories in some old box and be glad.

PULSATING EXPERIENCE



Semester-one students Kathy Gruber, left, and Sandra Sebben illustrate the technique used to take radial pulses and blood pressure during the semester-one nursing and practical-nursing clinic last month.

Photo by Melanie Spencer